But recently, it has become more or less a rule for members of the depressed classes to enter upon lands which are reserved for public or communal purposes; and when the authorities try to evict them from such lands, they raise the cry that they are driven out of their homes. That, I must say, is not a proper line of conduct for the members of the depressed classes to take. They know that the Government always treat their applications for registry of lands with the greatest consideration and sympathy. They ought therefore to be very careful that they do not create difficulties for the Government by entering upon lands which cannot be registered as being reserved for public purposes. I would therefore request members of the depressed classes not to take that course. There are lands which are set apart for registry. There is nothing standing in the way of members of the depressed classes occupying those lands. But they should be careful not to encroach upon lands reserved for public purposes.

That leads me to one of your other points that, if a member of the depressed classes enters upon *poramboke* lands or lands in the Reserved Forest, he is punished. I may tell you that that is the law which applies not only to members of the depressed classes but to all. Any one who enters upon *poramboke* land or Reserved Forest without permission is punished whether he is a member of the depressed classes or not. It is impossible, having regard to the interests of the community and the State as a whole, to relax the application of the Poramboke Regulation in favour of the depressed class people, especially when we find that members of the depressed classes are trying to enter upon lands reserved for public purposes. Subject to that limitation, I may assure you that the Government have the greatest sympathy for the aspirations of members of the depressed classes to have house-sites and to have lands to cultivate. As far as possible, Government have been trying to give them such lands and Government will in the future also consider applications for the registry of such lands with the greatest sympathy.

9. Registry of lands to depressed classes.

MR. PARADI ABRAHAM ISAAC (*Nominated*) thanked Government for the many concessions granted to the Cheramar community especially in the matter of registry of lands. But they h still some difficulties in getting registry of land under the concessiona terms sanctioned by the Government. In the first place, the lands ear-marked for assignment to depressed classes were rocky and barren and unfit for any kind of cultivation. The selection of lands was done by the Revenue authorities without local inspection. It was a pity to see that, adjacent to the earmarked lands, there were other fertile *tarisu* lands available for registry. It was not uncommon that, whenever lands were occupied and improved, the occupants were evicted and the lands sold in auction or registered under the ordinary provisions of the Puduval Rules on recovery of *taravila* and other dues. In the taluks of Neyyattinkara, Nedumangad, Pattanamtitta, Muvattupuzha and Todupuzha, the lands assigned to depressed classes mostly unfit for any kind of cultivation. The proper cou

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improve this state of affairs lay in the appointment at an early date of a Protector of the Depressed Classes who would be able to select and earmark useful lands for purposes of assignment to depressed classes. The Government were already contemplating the appointment of an officer.

There were extensive lands of the *kanjapttu* tenure in the Vilavankod, Neyyattinkara, Nedumangad, Muvattupuzha, Todupzha, Peermade and Devicolam taluks. The *kanies* had alienated large portions of these ands.. Further, they were also eligible for concessional registry of lands under the Puduval Rules. In the circumstances, it was unnecessary to reserve large areas for their exclusive use. Orders might therefore be passed to make those lands available for assignment to depressed classes.

The swampy areas disafforested from the reserves should also be reserved for registry to depressed classes and not assigned away to co-operative societies and syndicates. In Nurvakad and Karikattur in the Pattanamtitta taluk, there were lands available for registry. An extent of 3 acres each in these places should be assigned to the depressed classes under concessional terms.

In the Purakkad and Takazhi *pakuthies* of the Ambalapuzha taluk, several pieces of land had been occupied by members of depressed classes and applications made for their registry. Although the Land Revenue Commissioner had informed the applicants that the lands would be assigned to them on concessional terms, no further steps had been taken. The registry proceedings should be expedited.

Large extents of land had been reserved as grazing blocks in many taluks. Members of the depressed classes had occupied portions of those lands. As far as possible, such lands should be assigned to them. The member also brought to the notice of the Assembly that, during the floods of 1099 and 1104, several members of the depressed classes occupied portions of the grazing blocks in Kurichi, Manchadikara and other places in the Changanachery taluk. The Government had ordered the registry of a total extent of 150 acres of land in those places. Bu the tlocal people were harassing them and taking steps to drive them away. These attempts should be prevented and all available lands should be assigned to the depressed classes.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Isaac, your chief complaint is that, of the lands reserved for registry to members of the depressed classes, a large proportion is land not fit for cultivation. This is not a new complaint. This complaint has been made many times in past years. And Government have already decided that these lands, which have now been reserved, should be examined by the officers of the Land Revenue Department in company with the Protector of the Depressed Classes and the representatives of the depressed classes, so that lands which are really unfit for cultivation may, wherever possible, be substituted by lands fit for cultivation. This joint inspection has already taken place in one taluk. And Government are issuing orders that the joint inspection in the other taluks should be made without delay. When that has been done, that complaint of yours would have been redressed.

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Your second request was that some land in Nurvakad must be reserved for registry in favour of members of the depressed classes. I cannot say anything definite about that now. But the request will, however, be considered by Government.

Another point was that some land in Ambalapuzha had been applied for by members of the depressed classes and that the Land Revenue Commissioner had given them an endorsement that the land applied for would be registered in their favour on concessional terms. Your complaint is that the order has not so far been carried out. I am sure the Land Revenue Commissioner will look into the matter and see that any order that he has passed is carried out by his subordinates.

Your last request was that a full-time Protector of the Depressed Classes should be appointed. As you yourself said in the course of your representation, that is a matter which is engaging the attention of Government and I may assure you that it will not be lost sight of.

10. Removal of hardships experienced by the Kuravas in getting puduval and poramboke lands registered in their names and the grant of certain concessions in the matter of registering puduval lands.

Mr. NARAYANAN RAMAN (*Nominated*) represented that the Kurava community was not granted the same concessions or privileges which other depressed class communities enjoyed in the matter of of registry *puduval* lands. The Kuravas were being evicted from the lands occupied and improved by them. The member's first request was that the Kuravas should be exempted from the operation of the Poramboke Regulation till each Kurava family got an extent of 3 acres registered in its name.

An extent of about 19 acres from Survey No. 1/859 of the Kunnattur *pakuthi* had been occupied by Kuravas and improved by them. But it was very hard that proceedings were started against them on the ground that the lands were grazing blocks. The lands should be registered in the names of the occupants.

The following lands were set apart for registry in the names of Kuravas and the registry proceedings should be completed without delay :—

(i) 9 acres from Survey No. 185/1 in the Poruvazhi pakuthi ;

(ii) 15 acres from Survey No. 158/1 of the Kunnatttur pakuthi ;

(iii) 25 acres from Survey No. 414/1 of the Pallikkal pakuthi ;

(iv) 15·29 acres from Survey No. 185/1 and 27·49 acres from Survey No. 282/1 of the Adur pakuthi ;

(v) 2·66 acre from Survey No. 457/1, 19·33 acre from Survey No 193/1 and 62·51 acres from Survey No. 783/1 of the Enadimangalam pakuthi ; and

(vi) 4·85 acres from Survey No. 33/1 and 40·20 acres from Survey No. 56/1 of the Kodumon pakuthi.

Orders should also be issued to the revenue authorities not to sell in auction or register in the names of others lands applied for by the Kuravas in other parts of the State.

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